



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The United States seeks to bolster peace, prosperity, and security in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and help the country integrate into Euro-Atlantic institutions and contribute to regional stability. The United States supports the structures and institutions established by the 1995 Dayton Peace Agreement, which have maintained peace for twenty-three years, while advocating for the political and economic reforms necessary to move the country forward. U.S. assistance programs focus on promoting inter-ethnic reconciliation, strengthening the rule of law and democratic institutions, improving law enforcement effectiveness, reducing vulnerabilities to malign external influence, building economic resilience, and fostering integration with Western markets.

Assistance Activities by Sector:

Peace and Security

- Promote local initiatives focused on peacebuilding and reconciliation, encouraging national dialogue and helping build consensus around issues that are crucial for BiH to move forward.
- Improve the ability of law enforcement to investigate crimes such as corruption, organized crime, smuggling, trafficking in persons, and terrorism.
- Strengthen the ability of law enforcement agencies and customs officials to protect the country's borders, interdict trafficking in items of proliferation concern, and promote cross-border cooperation.
- Help the Armed Forces of BiH and the Ministry of Defense to implement comprehensive defense reforms and modernize equipment and communications capabilities.
- Support BiH's efforts to clear landmines and unexploded ordnances from the conflicts in the early 1990s and safely destroy excess arms and ammunition.
- Enhance the professional development of security personnel, including law enforcement authorities, and increase interoperability of BiH armed forces with U.S. and NATO forces.

Democracy and Good Governance

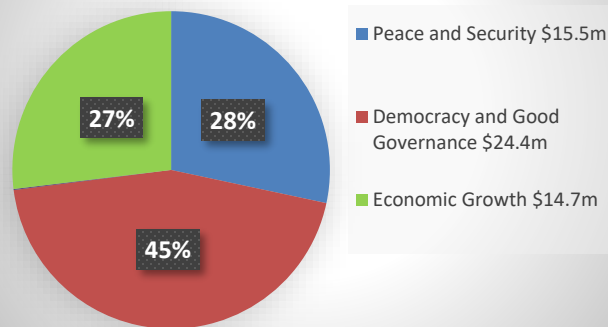
- Promote rule of law and governance reforms to reenergize BiH's progress toward Euro-Atlantic integration, enhance stability, and address pervasive corruption.
- Improve the effectiveness of judges and prosecutors, and strengthen judicial independence.
- Assist the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council to improve ethical standards, performance appraisals, and disciplinary and appointment procedures.
- Provide educational guides and other support to enable witnesses to testify effectively in court.

Bosnia and Herzegovina Quick Facts*

- State /USAID Assistance since 1992 – approximately \$2 billion
- Population - 3.5 Million
- GDP (per capita) - \$4,880
- Ease of Doing Business Grade – 64.20/100

*Information for Population, GDP, and Ease of doing business sourced from World Bank

FY 2017 Foreign Assistance by Objective (\$54.7m)



- Strengthen the ability of civil society to advocate for stronger action on issues like anti-corruption reforms, implementing conflict of interest and whistleblower protection laws, stimulating employment, increasing the transparency of public procurement and hiring, improving health and education services, and promoting the equality and rights of all BiH citizens.
- Support civic education and American English language instruction in schools throughout BiH to facilitate wider youth participation in democratic processes.
- Promote the economic and political empowerment of women through leadership, mentoring, and business skills training.
- Mobilize citizen participation in democratic political processes and facilitate cross-party cooperation on anti-corruption and other initiatives.
- Improve accountability of institutions at all levels of government and promote legislative efforts to enhance government transparency.
- Provide training for observers across the democratic spectrum on election processes, including how to handle complaint procedures.
- Support local efforts to reform Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) curriculum by increasing citizen participation from all ethnic groups in education decision-making processes.
- Engage local government officials and community leaders to build resilience to extremist narratives.
- Counter disinformation by supporting local objective news and investigative journalism, providing legal representation for outlets targeted by politically motivated lawsuits, and improving media literacy.
- Increase the quality and reach of investigative reporting through improved content, audience analytics, and regional networking.

ASSISTANCE BY ACCOUNT	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
TOTAL (\$ in Thousands)	36,899	54,726	41,691
Assistance to Europe, Eurasia, & Central Asia	26,781	46,383	32,500
Foreign Military Financing	4,000	4,000	
International Military Education & Training	998	993	841
International Narcotics Control & Law Enforcement	-	-	6,000
Nonproliferation, Antiterrorism, Demining & Related Programs	5,120	3,350	2,350
*In FYs 2016 and 2017, bilateral International Narcotics Control & Law Enforcement (INCLE) programs were funded via the Assistance to Europe, Eurasia & Central Asia (AEECA) account.			

Economic Growth

- Advance trade policies, legislation, and regulatory reforms that align with international standards and establish a level playing field for U.S. investment, including in the food and agricultural sector.
- Improve BiH's commercial law framework by helping BiH law schools to create sustainable Vis Moot programs and by providing training to judicial officials on bankruptcy, enforcement of international sales contracts, alternative dispute resolution, and intellectual property.
- Assist the Ministry of Finance, tax authorities, and other government institutions to improve fiscal management and coordination through the introduction of IT systems and automated processes for budget planning, revenue reporting treasury operations, risk based auditing, and e-filing of taxes.
- Create job opportunities for BiH citizens by leveraging and promoting investment by the BiH diaspora.
- Remove barriers to economic growth, improve BiH's fiscal and financial stability, enhance private sector competitiveness, and increase integration with Western markets.
- Support the completion of a comprehensive energy regulatory framework that stimulates greater investment in the electricity and gas sectors, improves efficiency, and reduces costs, thereby increasing BiH's energy security.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[State Department Fact Sheets](#) [U.S. Embassy Website](#) www.foreignassistance.gov [Millennium Challenge Corporation](#)

*This fact sheet does not reflect centrally managed or regional Foreign Assistance funding that is not specifically budgeted for Bosnia & Herzegovina.

The Department of State and USAID work closely together to facilitate programs in Bosnia and Herzegovina.